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class, but insisted that society could not dispense with private property and exchange value, which began with the dawn of civilization and without which men could not be induced to put forth their best efforts and an equitable adjustment of rewards to services would be impossible. Gossen was therefore strongly in favor of legislation for the protection and elevation of the working class.

Professor von Wenckstern has clearly shown that "the heart of the social problem is the problem of rights, especially the rights of labor," and that the justification of private property must be that it is essential to the welfare of the many, that is, the working class.

J. E. LE ROSSIGNOL.

University of Nebraska.

Das Leben eines Landarbeiters. By FRANZ REHBEIN. Edited by PAUL GOHRE. (Jena: Verlag Eugen Diederichs. 1911. Pp. 262. 3.50 m.)

It is to a personal experience of the editor of this series that we owe, with two others, this new volume. Göhre's "Three Months in a Workshop" appeared in its English dress in 1895. The author because he was secretary of the Evangelical Social Congress, perhaps because he was himself of very humble origin, was led from sympathy to pass three months in a machine shop in Saxony. The letters describing his experience, published in the "Christliche Welt," excited so keen and wide an interest that a book soon followed which created an extraordinary interest among prosperous folk. Colorless imitations soon appeared, but also the more serious purpose expressed in a series of workmen's biographies, of which the present by Franz Rehbein is the fourth. In 1903 came "Denkwürdigkeiten und Erinnerungen eines Arbeiters." The next year, in two parts, appeared the life story of a modern factory operative (W. Bromme); and in 1909, the life of a technical handworker (Wenzel Holek). Rehbein, the subject of this notice, did not, like the other three, write his book while he was at the work described. In 1895 his right arm was torn out by a steam threshing machine. Bitter days follow this experience. Like so many others in ill luck, he is taken in hand by the director of a socialist newspaper. Slowly he learns to write with the left hand. He is meantime in a journalistic atmosphere, and comes naturally to contribute items especially upon subjects connected with farm life. Three years later he is in Berlin on the "Vorwärts." In 1909, at 42 years of age, he

suddenly died, leaving a wife and six children. The present work had then been some few months finished.

In eleven chapters, the story deals with the minuter details of a hard life experience. It begins in the home of his father, a working tailor, where "thirteen coffee beans have to make fourteen cups." We follow him as a lad into East Pomerania; then as one of that vast multitude of contract laborers into Saxony. In Holstein he becomes Hütejunge for a small peasant; later Dienstjunge, and last Grossknecht. His three years in the cavalry (ch. 82) would make an invaluable document for the Peace Society. He becomes a social democrat "without knowing it," getting convictions from experience rather than from books—"dispossessing one both of personality and morals, so worthless seems to him the mechanism" of the army.

The story is told with graphic simplicity that reminds one of Gotthelf's famous "Uli, der Knecht." It is distinctively the intimate personal document with its limitations, but also with its persuasiveness and power. It is perhaps the one best worth translation.

JOHN GRAHAM BROOKS.

NEW BOOKS

BERRY, W. H. *Our economic troubles and the way out; an answer to socialism.* (Chester, Pa.: J. Spencer. 1912. Pp. 147. \$1.)

BOULEN, A. G. *Les idées solidaristes de Proudhon.* (Paris: Marchal et Godde.)

BOYLE, J. *What is socialism?: an exposition and a criticism; with special reference to the movement in America and England.* (New York: Shakespeare Press. 1912. Pp. 347. \$1.50.)

BRODA, R. and DEUTSCH, J. *Le prolétariat international. Etude de psychologie sociale.* (Paris: Giard & Brière. 1912. Pp. 254. 3 fr.)

CARPENTER, C. *Copartnership in industry; with notes on over 200 British copartnership and profit-sharing schemes, 1829-1912.* (London: Copartnership Publishers, Ltd. 6d.)

CERNESSEN, J. *Les associations ouvrières de production et le collectivisme.* (Paris: Giard & Brière. 1912. Pp. 20. 1 fr.)

CHARNAY, M. *Les Allemanistes. Histoire des partis socialistes en France, Vol. V.* (Paris: Rivière. 1912. Pp. 112. 0.75 fr.)

COMPÈRE-MOREL. *La question agraire et le socialisme.* (Paris: Rivière. 1912. 7.25 fr.)